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UNITED STATES ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY
WASHINGTON

Executive Registry

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APR 8 1963

OFFICE OF
THE DIRECTOR

Dear John:

Mr. Fisher has informed me of the meeting held on 27 March at the Office of National Estimates with Mr. Smith, [redacted] and Mr. Stoertz, to discuss a special intelligence requirement.

The Separable First-Stage proposal initiated by this Agency is, we believe, one of the more significant activities now going on with respect to contemplated negotiations with the Soviets in the arms control field. We recognize the very basic role played by intelligence data to many of our proposals and especially the reduction in forces measure. We also acknowledge that the quantification of information previously expressed mainly in qualitative terms poses many difficulties for the intelligence estimators. Nevertheless, contemplated cuts in armaments raise sufficiently grave problems to require the application of most sophisticated techniques in estimating. I agree with the concern of the Office of National Estimates that the users of such estimates share a common understanding of the assumptions and definitions employed.

I am pleased to be informed that in spite of the difficulties this type of estimating presents, your Agency in conjunction with USIB will proceed to respond to the degree possible to our original request of 18 February. In view of the stated need for some indication of relative priority of treatment for the various categories, we suggest the following sequence of attention:

The Honorable John A. McCone,
Director of Central Intelligence,
Washington 25, D. C. State Dept. review completed

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE)

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GROUP 3

Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

Declassify on: OADR

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- 2 -

1. ICBM and SLBM launchers
2. Heavy bombers
3. Tanks
4. IRBM launchers
5. Artillery
6. Medium bombers
7. ICBM's
8. IRBM's
9. Light bombers

Again, I am gratified that CIA can undertake this job. Naturally, Dr. Rathjens and other members of my staff are available for consultation during the course of this project.

Sincerely,



William C. Foster
Director

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